

City of San Diego
Park and Recreation Board

July 17, 2008

MINUTES

“WE ENRICH LIVES THROUGH QUALITY PARKS AND PROGRAMS”

Meeting Held at:

Balboa Park Club, Santa Fe Room
2150 Pan America Road West
San Diego, California 92101

Mailing Address is:

City of San Diego
Park and Recreation Director
202 C Street, MS 37C
San Diego, California 92101

Members Present

Wilbur Smith, Chair
Ginny Barnes
Bruce Brown
Rick Bussell
Vicki Granowitz
Norman Greene
Roz King
Michael Stepner

Members Absent

Dan Mazzella
Olivia Puentes-Reynolds
Evonne Schulze

City Staff Present

Stacey LoMedico
Darren Greenhalgh
Kim Davies
Debbie Van Martin
Jo-Ann Novak

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Mr. Smith called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JUNE 19, 2008

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Ms. Barnes/Mr. Stepner

A motion was made by Ms. Barnes and seconded by Mr. Stepner to approve the June 19, 2008 meeting minutes. Vote was unanimous with Mr. Mazzella, Ms. Puentes-Reynolds, and Ms. Schulze absent.

Mr. Smith deferred Committee Reports to the end of the meeting.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE – None

COMMUNICATIONS (Limited to items not on the agenda. Each one will be limited to three minutes and is not debatable.) – None

Consent At this time the Board may consider adoption of one or more items on the adoption agenda as “Consent” items.

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Bussell/Mr. Greene

A motion was made by Mr. Bussell to approve Item 101 Proposed Leasehold Improvements for Mission Bay Hilton Hotel. Mr. Greene seconded the motion. Mr. Brown, Mr. Bussell, Ms. Granowitz, Mr. Greene, Ms. King and Mr. Stepner approved. Ms. Barnes opposed.

INFORMATION ITEM

201. Update on Proposed Mission Bay Ordinance/Charter
Councilmember Donna Frye and Mr. Bob Otilie

The presentation was an overview of the proposed Charter Amendment.

The following were provided by Councilmember Frye and Mr. Otilie during the presentation:

- Councilmember Frye expressed that although the discussions have been on-going regarding such an amendment, there is a limited time frame in order to get it on the ballot, and she wished there was more time for public discussion and input.
- Mr. Otilie indicated this could generate \$600M to \$700M in revenue to Mission Bay and the regional parks listed. There is more than enough to do all the projects in Mission Bay including the Fiesta Island improvements.
- Mr. Otilie stated the funds generated would go toward deferred maintenance and ensures the money stays in the parks and has a citizen oversight committee.

There were many questions and comments from the Board members board, including but not limited to:

- Include record of survey map or boundary map.
- Exclude revenues from Recreation Councils for funds collected by recycling and other fund raisers not to be included in all sources of revenues (leases only).
- Actively seek grant funding.
- Concerned about restricting the funds for capital improvements projects in the San Diego Regional Parks Improvement Fund.
- Concerned that the original lease did not include the Oceanfront Walk from the Mission Bay jetty to its northern terminus in Pacific Beach and the adjoining seawall under Mission Bay Park Improvement Zone.
- Agree to Rose Creek and Tecolote Creek and San Diego River to be included in the Mission Bay Park Improvement Zone.
- Clarity to the prioritization list and completion of prior project language.
- Ensure that impacts to General Fund are addressed.
- Community should have input on ordinance.
- Mr. Greene read allowed Ms. Dorothy Leonard, Chair of Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) letter that included two recommendations: (1.) Recommend that the "Park and Recreation Board" be replaced with a "Regional Parks Improvement Fund Oversight Committee" for the purpose of making priority recommendations and providing financial oversight of the San Diego Regional Parks Improvement Fund. (2.) Recommend that the Multiple Species Conservation Program for Open Space areas be deleted from the definition of Regional Parks.
- Raise revenues to appropriately pay for projects and programs that are needed.
- Concerned about the expanding list for regional parks.
- Balboa Park Committee could provide language on roads and bridges.
- Concerned that two tier system will be problematic.
- Concerned that funds will not be sought for the second tier.

- Concerned about funds being used in a fiscal emergency.
- Concerned that Regional Parks was included in order for this ordinance could be move forward.
- Regional Parks should have an opportunity to provide recommendations.
- This is a golden opportunity to move forward on restoring funds to the park system.
- Flexibility to change Public Facilities Finance Plan priority list.
- Fund the development of Fiesta Island by creating a funding stream to go out to bond to create a larger funding stream.
- What is the timing line for this ballot measure?
- Ensure that definitions are the same as the City definitions.

Public Comment

Judith A. Swink spoke in opposition of Item 201. She distributed a letter dated July 14, 2008 to Park and Recreation Board requesting City of San Diego Councilmember's to modify the wording by removing the priorities and by listing the Mission Beach Boardwalk and seawall under "Developed Regional Parks."

ACTION ITEMS

101. Proposed Leasehold Improvements for Mission Bay Hilton Hotel

The proposed leasehold improvements for Mission Bay Hilton Hotel include the addition of one new pool, the addition of a trellis structure and a new conference facility to the Mission Bay Hilton Hotel. The site improvements include landscape improvements to the main entrance of the facility, modifications to the entry turnaround, landscape improvements around the new conference facility, and improvements to the lawn at the existing wedding area. A trellis structure is proposed to be attached to the existing temporary conference facility.

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Ms. Barnes/Mr. Greene

A motion was made by Ms. Barnes to approve Item 101 Proposed Leasehold Improvements for Mission Bay Hilton Hotel, excluding the parking issue until Park and Recreation Department staff have an opportunity to review. Mr. Greene seconded and the motion passed.

102. Approval of the General Development Plan for Wightman Street Neighborhood Park

Ms. Debbie Van Martin, Project Manager, Engineering and Capital Projects Department and Scott Molentin, of Estrada Land Planning presented the General Development Plan for Wightman Street Neighborhood Park. The Wightman Street Neighborhood Park General Development Plan was developed based on the community input received during a series of public workshops, the recommendations and comments received from the Area Committee and Design Review Committee.

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Greene/Ms. Granowitz

A motion was made by Mr. Greene to approve the General Development Plan for Wightman Street Neighborhood Park. Motion was seconded by Ms. Granowitz and passed.

Public Comment

Kathleen Evans-Calderwood spoke neutral to Item 102.

Park and Recreation Board recommendations and comments:

- Is there enough parking spaces and access to park?
- Asked questions to the visibility into park from the street and security lights.
- Safeguards in place for the creek.
- Ms. Barnes supports name change if community comes forward with a new name.
- Concerned that the sand in children's playground will attract feral cats.
- What deterrent will be used against graffiti on the wall?
- Concerned that handicap parking on the street will be taken by non-park user.
- Request that Police Department have input on all parks.
- Install a table adjacent to bar-b-que.

Ms. LoMedico pointed out the most important and critical aspect of park development is the community input. The park's environment document is still in process.

ACTION ITEMS

INFORMATION ITEMS

202. Our Urban Forest

Ms. Vicki Estrada, FASLA, Estrada Land Planning and Drew Potocki, Urban Forester, General Services Department presented an overview of our urban forest. The Community Forest Advisory Board was established in 1999 to provide advice and recommendations directly to the Mayor, and City Council on all policy issues relating to urban forestry. The Urban Forest includes all of the trees and shrubs growing on both public and private property within the City. Ms. Estrada pointed out that trees save energy, increase economic stability, promote wildlife, good for our health and safety, conserve water, encourage aquifer recharge and reduce soil erosion, have social and educational value.

Some of the major things that the Park and Recreation Board can do are as follow:

- Help establish long-term goals for the enhancement of our urban forest.
- Protect existing trees where practical.
- Protect our canyons.
- Encourage more trees in City Parks and on adjacent streets.

Public Comment

Kathleen Evans-Calderwood spoke in favor of informational Item 202.

Park and Recreation Board recommendations and comments:

- Are non-invasive trees planted in Open Space area?
- Concerns of removal of trees by Cal-Trans and The City's Streets Division.
- Is there a policy for planting and maintaining trees?
- Recommends utilizing streets and sidewalks to provide park space.
- Create pocket parks and promenades.
- Are there plans for National Parking Day (create parks out of parking spaces) on September 19, 2008?
- Does Urban Forest work with Cal-Trans on various issues?
- Recommended that Urban Forest contact the College Area Community Council for funding.

Mr. Green requested that Ms. Estrada provide the Park and Recreation Board with specific items they can do as a Board to help in the planting and maintaining of trees. Ms. Estrada will discuss with the Urban Forest Board and respond to his question at a later date.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Area Committee Community Parks I – No Report

Area Committee Community Parks II – No Report

Balboa Park Committee

- Ms. Granowitz reported that the Real Estate Assets and the Park and Recreation Departments will be discussing leases, Right of Entries, and other forms of permits at the July 24, 2008 Balboa Park Committee. Mr. David Lang with the Partnership will provide information on the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership.
- Pride Festival is taking place this weekend at Marston Point in Balboa Park. Cabrillo/Laurel Street Bridge will be closed and there is no parking available on the west side of Balboa Park.
- Old Globe is starting work on the new building.

Design Review Committee – No Report

Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens' Advisory Committee – No Report

Mission Bay Park Committee

- Mr. Bussell invited the Police Department to go over the plans for the Fourth of July weekend.
- Mr. Bussell encourage all to attend the Over-The-Line Tournament on July 19 and 20, 2008.

Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee

- Mr. Greene reported that the Citizen's Advisory Committee made recommendations to the Foundation Task Force then these recommendations go to Planning, but do not go to the Park and Recreation Board, and then to the City.
- Committee discussed the Sycamore Landfill Master Plan that will eventually be part of the northern Mission Trails Park.
- Committee discussed the Alvarado Water Treatment Expansion and Upgrade.
- Equestrian Staging area will be getting a comfort station once it is approved by the Task Force.

Tecolote Canyon Citizens' Advisory Committee

- Mr. Bussell reported the committee went over the agenda items that included Mount Ashmun Drive Pipe Protect Project; Pipe repair Balboa near Man Hole 346; and USD Aquatic wellness center and Golf field/lighting.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – No report

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Ms. LoMedico circulated a photo of the City Golf Division staff with Champion Tiger Woods at the U.S. Open Golf Championship.
- Junior World Tournament Championship is occurring throughout San Diego County golf courses with over a 1,000 children participating from ages 4 to 17. Torrey Pines is one of the

sites.

- U.S. Open Golf Championship Tournament ended in mid-June, and as of tomorrow all structures will be removed from the North and South Courses. Staff are working on the restoration plan and expect to open the North course to the public September 1, 2008.
- The Department Instruction on Field Usage will be sent back to Community Parks I and II per Ms. Barnes recommendation, and the Department is requesting a quick turn around so the final version may start on January 1, 2009.
- The Independent Contractor Agreement (ICA) will also be brought forward to the Community Parks I and II for their review over the next several months.
- The July 5th clean-up was amazing! One department employee, who has been involved with the July 5th clean-up for the past 16 years, has never seen the beach so clean.
- No significant reports from the Police Department regarding the Fourth of July celebration.
- Ms. LoMedico attended the Fourth of July celebration at Standley Recreation Center. More than 500 people were in attendance when a fire broke out in the Open Space area. There were no issues.
- More issues will be coming forth in the media on the Children's Pool.
- Ms. LoMedico will respond in writing to Mr. Kuczewski compliant regarding the Gliderport Lessee.
- Park and Recreation Board typically is dark in August, however a few informational items were pushed back and if possible Ms. LoMedico would like to have a meeting. Please email Ms. Novak regarding your attendance.

Ms. Barnes asked why the Mission Bay Golf Course are not part of the City Enterprise Fund. Ms. LoMedico stated that the Golf Course is in the Enterprise Fund and it is in the budget. Ms. Barnes would like the Golf Cart and fees combined and placed in the Enterprise Fund. Ms. LoMedico will research and respond at a later date.

Mr. Barnes voiced her disapproval on receiving an anonymous letter from Boaters of San Diego regarding San Diego Mission Bay Boat and Ski Club denial of their lease for renewal. If the person who sent this letter wanted to provide contact information Ms. Barnes would be willing to discuss the issue with them.

Ms. King added an additional comment regarding Mission Bay Hilton parking spaces being used for commercial vehicles services. Mr. Smith stated that on the western side of Balboa Park the same problem is occurring with non-park users parking in Balboa Park. Item 101 regarding proposed leasehold improvements for Mission Bay Hilton Hotel has been closed.

WORKSHOP

STANDING UPDATES

Business Process Re-Engineering (BPR) Update – Stacey LoMedico, Park and Recreation Department Director, will send the Boardmembers a memo regarding the Reservoir Recreation Program. The contract will be with the Water Department as the service provider. The full report will be scheduled at City Council after their legislative recess. A complete report will be given to the Park and Recreation Board at that time. During the Stakeholder Meetings, many of the lake users expressed that they wanted the Water Department to continue to run the recreation program.

A motion was made and seconded and approved to adjourn meeting.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting: **Thursday, August 21, 2008, 2:00 p.m.**
City Administration Building
Committee Room, 12th Floor
202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101

Submitted by,

Stacey LoMedico
Park and Recreation Director